“Forget fair and balanced—we’re the only news source up here.”

**TODAY’S EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Registration, Bread Loaf Inn</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 P.M. - 1:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Lunch, Bread Loaf Inn</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Bread Loaf Campus Tour, Bread Loaf Inn front porch</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Bread Loaf Campus Tour, Bread Loaf Inn front porch</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 P.M.</td>
<td>Bread Loaf Campus Tour, Bread Loaf Inn front porch</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Dinner, Bread Loaf Inn</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:15 P.M.</td>
<td>Welcome: Michael Collier Reading: Natasha Trethewey and Luis Alberto Urrea, Little Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 P.M.</td>
<td>Coffee Reception, Barn</td>
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</tbody>
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**GUESTS**

Join us in welcoming the following visitors to the mountain:

- Miriam Altshuler
- Vievee Francis
- Gabriel Fried
- Joy Harris
- Jenna Johnson
- Mitchell Waters

Hello, Gorgeous!

*The Crumb* welcomes you to the 89th Annual Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference. Today’s edition of *The Crumb* will fill you in on such basics as bookstore hours and how to make departure arrangements. Hereafter, it will contain daily schedules, program changes, and announcements of special events. You will find copies each morning by the dining room door.

Please leave letters to the editor and community announcements in the box marked *The Crumb* outside the back office or email them to blcrumb@gmail.com. Personal advertisements are not accepted; singing telegrams are welcome.

**Hours of Operation**

- **Back Office:** Daily, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **Front Desk:** Daily, 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- **Switchboard:** Same as Front Desk
- **Library:** Open at 7:00 a.m., locked at 1:00 a.m. Librarian on site weekdays, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- **Apple Cellar:** Same hours as the Library
- **Bookstore:** Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.*
  - Saturday and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
  - *Tuesday, August 19, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Changes or additional operating times will be noted in *The Crumb.*
**Bread Loaf Campus Facilities & Services**

**Back Office**
The back office is in the west wing of the Inn, next to the Blue Parlor. The staff is happy to help with any photocopying or faxing needs as well as any questions you may have.

If you would like to arrange a special discussion or activity, please feel free to post an announcement. In the past, Bread Loafers have organized AA meetings, groups to talk about writing and parenting, touch football games, and tennis matches. The back office staff would be happy to help you plan an activity, from finding a good place to post the announcement to arranging an appropriate meeting place.

**Barn Social and Barn Pub**
The Barn, located in a central spot on the Bread Loaf campus, is a place for participants to gather and socialize. On most days, from 5:30 p.m. until just before dinner, a Barn Social will take place, with soda and munchies available free of charge, and beer or wine on sale. And on most evenings, a Barn Pub is set up from 9:30 p.m. to midnight. Each drink costs $3. Randy Stockwell, bartender for Middlebury College and the Conference, will make you feel welcome. Stop by to say hello.

**Bells**
We’ll start your day with a wake-up bell at 7:30 a.m.; thereafter you’ll hear a bell to announce the start of each meal, as well as fifteen minutes and again five minutes before the start of each lecture and reading.

**Blue Parlor Readings**
During the Conference, all are invited to take part in the Blue Parlor readings. These informal readings, hosted by coordinator Michelle Peñaloza, will take place in the Blue Parlor in the Bread Loaf Inn. These readings provide an opportunity to share your writing and to meet Bread Loafers from other workshops. Those interested in reading will be asked to sign up in advance. Details about the Blue Parlor organizational meeting will be noted soon in a forthcoming issue of *The Crumb*.

**Bookstore**
Books by faculty, fellows, and contributors are for sale in the Bookstore, as are miscellaneous supplies such as soap, stationery, phone cards, and t-shirts. The store is located in the basement of the Annex; the entrance is at the rear of the building. Cash, Visa, MasterCard, personal and traveler’s checks are accepted. The Bookstore is open Monday through Friday, 8:30
a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. On Tuesday, August 19, the store will be open until 6:30 p.m. Let’s hear it for Christa Aleshire, who singlehandedly runs the bookstore.

Computer Lab in the Apple Cellar

A computer room is located in the basement of the library on the Bread Loaf campus. A computer technician will be on hand some days—the tech’s schedule will be noted in the Thursday, August 14, issue of The Crumb—and the Middlebury College help desk will be available by phone (dial 2200 from any campus phone) or email (helpdesk@middlebury.edu) on weekdays from 8:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wireless access is available in the Library, the Bread Loaf Inn, and the Barn. The network is called midd-standard, and the case sensitive password is Middlebury-wireless.

The Crumb

Read The Crumb daily and religiously for program changes and special events. You don’t want to show up for a meeting with an editor only to discover she’s on the other side of the campus.

All lectures and readings are given in the Little Theatre. Locations of craft classes, discussion groups, workshops, panels, informal readings, etc., will be announced in The Crumb.

Informal, impromptu readings and meetings are encouraged; we’ll be glad to help promote them in The Crumb.

The Crumb routinely features hard-hitting journalism by correspondents from all over the conference. If you see a story worth reporting, we encourage you to submit it in the box marked The Crumb by the back office or by e-mail to blcrumb@gmail.com.

Faxing

There is a fax machine in the back office. We will send faxes for you after you’ve completed a cover sheet. If you receive a fax, we’ll put it in your mailbox (another reason to check your mailbox frequently). The fax number is 802-443-2087. We no longer provide smoke signals.

Financial Aid at the Conference

Thanks to the generous support of Middlebury College and to an endowment fund established by past Bread Loafers and other donors, we are able to offer financial aid in several categories. We would like to thank recent donors including The Estate of Donald Everitt Axinn, The Estate of Carol Houck Smith, and The Rona Jaffe Foundation. We are especially pleased to announce The Axinn Foundation Fellowship in Narrative Nonfiction, established in 2014 by The Axinn Foundation to support a Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference fellowship in narrative nonfiction, awarded competitively. Donald Axinn was a modern version of what is often called a Renaissance man. While a successful real estate developer, he loved the life of a creative writer. Almost every day of his life, he awoke at 5:00 a.m. and went to a little private space he had built in order to write; he wrote with great enthusiasm and discipline. He loved Middlebury and Bread Loaf.

Front Desk

See the Front Desk for check cashing, issues regarding your room or any aspect of the physical plant, lost and found items, local lore, postage, transportation tips, and general information. There is a limit of $50 per person, per day, in cashing personal and/or traveler’s checks. Two-party checks are not accepted.

Health Care

For Physical Health Care:

For non-emergency health matters, a self-care cart is
Linens
Sheets, blankets, and towels are provided. The towels will be replaced once during the Conference, and in an effort to conserve energy, bed linens will not be replaced during the session. Nevertheless, a fresh set of bed linens can be requested if you find it necessary to replace them. Please contact the Front Desk staff about making these arrangements.

Lunch (staggered lunch schedule)
Lunch will be served buffet style, and to avoid long lines, we urge you to follow the procedure noted here, based on your workshop schedule:

1. Call 911 from any on campus phone. A sign near each phone lists important details including the exact address and phone number for that location.
2. Contact the front desk staff at x2700 to let them know.

For Mental Health Care:
For mental health matters, contact the director, assistant director, or administrative manager (Michael, Jennifer, or Noreen) for a referral.

For Mental Health Emergencies:
The emergency team at the Counseling Service of Addison County is available around the clock. Dial 9 and then 388-7641 from any campus phone.

Library
The Library is the white building behind the Little Theatre. In addition to its permanent collection, there are books by faculty and fellows, magazines, and the daily issue of the New York Times. You will also find a complete set of the 2014 workshop packets on the reserve shelf. Kellam Ayres, Steve Bertolino, and Dan Frostman are your friendly library staff.

Laundry
Washers and dryers are in the Laundry House in front of the Barn. The Front Desk can give you change, and laundry soap is sold in the bookstore.

Mail
The Post Office (with limited services) is located in the Front Office. Outgoing mail leaves at 1:30 p.m. Incoming mail is ready for distribution by late afternoon. UPS mailing is available at reduced rates.
Check your mailbox at least daily. Messages from us, from your colleagues at Bread Loaf, and from people at home will all be placed in your mailbox. If you have trouble opening your mailbox, the front desk staff will be glad to help you. Most Bread Loafers will share a mailbox with one other person; when picking up your mail, please be sure it is addressed to you.

Please use the following address for all mail:

Your Name  
Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference  
4229 Ripton 125  
Ripton, VT 05766

Mail can only be received Monday, August 11 through Thursday, August 21. We cannot be responsible for mail arriving after August 21.

Massage

Massage appointments are available for a fee payable to the visiting masseuse, Jayne Webb (Bread Loaf School of English grad, 1968). Other modalities of healing are also available. Jayne will post sign-up sheets on the bulletin board near the dining hall. She encourages people to sign up for appointments early.

Meal tickets for those staying off campus

It is possible to buy tickets for individual meals. Tickets can be purchased at the Front Desk.

Newspapers

Copies of *The New York Times* will be in the Library every day. If you have subscribed in advance, you may pick up your copy at the Front Desk around 11:00 a.m., beginning Thursday, August 14. There may be a few extra copies at the Front Desk, available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please park your vehicle in the large parking lot in front of the Barn. It is illegal to park on the highway, and you may get a ticket.

The space in front of the Inn is reserved for the Bread Loaf van. The space behind the Inn is reserved for delivery trucks; the lawn adjacent to the north side of the Little Theatre is not a parking area.

Phones

In most cottages, there is a phone on each floor. This can be used to call out if you have a calling card. Otherwise, there is a phone booth located next to the Laundry House.

Incoming calls may be taken through the Bread Loaf switchboard (and direct calls to dorms and houses will transferred over to the switchboard after four rings). The Front Desk number is 802-443-2700 (hours 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.). Tell people who may call you to keep time differences in mind. If your hall phone rings, answer and take messages for your hall mates. They’ll return the favor for you. Please remember to check your mailbox frequently for phone messages.

Photocopying

Members of the office staff will be glad to copy limited quantities of material for you at the rate of 10 cents per page. It helps if you give them lead time. At the copy center, you will find order sheets.

Weather

The climate on the mountain can be volatile. There is no such thing as bad weather—only poor sartorial choices. The editor’s fashion tip: layers, darling, layers.
SAFETY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

If you have driven your car to Bread Loaf, you will have noticed that Route 125 (which is the road going over the mountain) is a narrow, winding road. It can be very dangerous, so please stay within the speed limit.

In Vermont, we recycle cans, bottles, and all kinds of paper. Before using a trash barrel, please look for a recycle bin and recycle whatever you can.

Vermont State Law prohibits smoking in any building on campus. Smoking is not permitted in front of the Inn, nor should you smoke on any of the porches or within 25 feet of the buildings (smoke will go in through open windows).

Please don’t turn off hallway lights. Fire laws dictate that hallway lights be on at all times.

Please be considerate of your roommate and neighbors. Some Bread Loafers go to sleep early, and some like to sleep in. The Barn is available for late night socializing and early morning workouts. You can also use the far side of the meadow, if you like.

Please do not eat or drink in the Little Theatre, the Library, or the Apple Cellar.

Off-Campus Opportunities

Downtown Middlebury

Trips to Middlebury depart daily (except for the first Thursday and Monday). The van will depart from the front of the Inn at 1:45 p.m. and will return to Bread Loaf at about 4:00 p.m. The driver will leave Middlebury at about 3:40 p.m. for the return trip. He will not be able to wait for stragglers. There is no charge for a trip to town on a scheduled run. The Front Desk has information on hand regarding churches, shopping, restaurants, etc. The sign-up sheet is posted daily at the Front Desk for that day’s trip.

Middlebury College Main Campus

The Library located on the main campus in Middlebury has an extensive collection, and it is available to you. You can also leave a note on the desk in the Bread Loaf library if you would like the librarian to bring up a book for you.

The Middlebury College fitness center and pool are available to Bread Loaf participants. You’ll find the hours listed on the Athletics Facility web page: www.middlebury.edu/athletics/facilities/hours. The athletics facility staff will have a list of Conference participants on hand, so you will just need to give your name to a staff member upon entering the building. The Bread Loaf Inn front desk staff would be happy to give you directions to the athletics complex.

From the Pages of Bread Loaf History

Twenty-five years ago today, eighteen writers arrived at the mountain to serve as fellows. Among them was Andrea Barrett, this year’s faculty member in fiction.

The image is from Whose Woods These Are: A History of the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference 1926-1992 by Mary Smith Duffy and David Haward Bain. Mr. Bain will present a slideshow about the conference’s history tomorrow.